

AUG 16 2001

Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Super Summer develops student leaders

By Tony Martin
Associate Editor

Super Summer is not your average youth camp.

During July 16-20, high school students from all over Mississippi gathered on the campus of Mississippi College (MC) in Clinton for intensive training in discipleship and evangelism.

The event, sponsored by the Discipleship and Family Ministry (DFM) Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, is unique in that students must "apply" to be participants.

Candidates must meet ten stated guidelines, including: demonstrating leadership qualities in their local churches; completing at least one level of a discipleship study; memorizing a minimum of ten Scripture verses relating to discipleship or evangelism; sharing their testimony with their youth group; and sharing the gospel with at least one person.

"Super Summer is designed to help students deepen their relationship with Jesus, and for kids who are already on board, to challenge them to go deeper," according to DFM consultant Harvey Ellis.

Ellis emphasized the need of having a leadership team of students involved in local church ministry.

"It's always great to have a student leadership team working with the other kids in their churches," he stated.

"It prepares them for further leadership, as well as encouraging and assisting the youth minister or other leader with their work," Ellis pointed out.

Mary Frances Hawkins, a student from Harrisburg Church, Tupelo, is a typical Super Summer participant.

"This was my fifth year at Super Summer," she said, "and

it's great to be with godly people.

Super Summer is an experience like no other. If you want peace with God, this is the place to be."

Students are divided into "schools" during the course of the week. Each school has its own time for worship and Bible study. The schools are broken down into smaller "family" sized units for more intensive discussion.

The camp also includes recreation by schools, and a joint worship service involving all Super Summer participants.

The worship leader this year was Barry St. Clair of Norcross, Ga., and music worship leader was Jake Gullede of Gainesville, Ga.

Ellis uses youth ministers and lay leaders from around the state to staff Super Summer.

Each school involves the services of a dean, associate dean, worship leader, media worker, and a team leader coordinator.

Each smaller group within each school further involves adult team leaders.



PRAISE AND WORSHIP — The orange "school" meets for worship during Super Summer July 16-20 at Mississippi College in Clinton. The camp was divided into several different "schools." (Photo by Tony Martin)

"We use 50 or so team leaders who are recommended by their youth minister or pastor," Ellis explained.

Tim Krason of Calvary Church, Tupelo, was one of many young people who served as team leaders.

"This is my second year as a team leader at Super Summer," he said.

"We meet for Bible study in schools, then we break up into the small groups. It gives the kids a chance to go deeper in their Bible studies by asking questions.

"I've learned so much at Super Summer," he continued.

"Getting to teach is a real plus. When you teach, you complete the circle. I get to share with the kids what Christ has taught me," Krason said.

Jeff Holeman, youth minister at First Church, Oxford, acknowledged the benefits to his students and himself.

"Super Summer is always a challenging week for my student leaders," he said.

"It is a week that God uses to equip them for evangelism and discipleship for the school year ahead.

"Super Summer students from my church are the ones who lead See You at the Pole and the campus Bible club at Oxford High School.

"It is also beneficial for them to meet other students from throughout Mississippi who are struggling to put their faith into action.

"For me personally, Super Summer is a week for me to hang out with other youth ministers from across Mississippi and share our successes and failures," Holeman said.

Through Super Summer, students spend approximately 20 hours in training.

They are challenged and equipped to utilize their talents to penetrate their culture for Christ in a creative and effective way.



A QUIET MOMENT — A Bible study group pauses for prayer on the sidewalk beside First Church, Clinton, during Super Summer July 16-20 at Mississippi College in Clinton. (Photo by Tony Martin)

WHAT'S IN THE RECORD

Dealing with strong kids

4

Directions

5

Letters to the editor

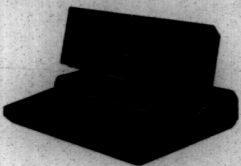
9

Sunday School lessons

10

MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION BOARD
JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION
NCE 1877
AUGUST 2, 2001
VOL. 125
No. 25

EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK



**William H.
Perkins Jr.**
Editor

EDITOR
William H. Perkins Jr.

ASSOCIATE EDITOR
Tony Martin

EDITORIAL ASSOCIATE
Florence Larrimore

LAYOUT/DESIGN
Jylin Davis

ADVERTISING/PROOFREADER
Heather Cumberland

CIRCULATION MANAGER
Brenda Quattlebaum

BOOKKEEPER
Betty Anne Bailey

EDITORS EMERITI
Don McGregor
Guy Henderson

Baptist Record Advisory Committee:
Grant Arinder, Ridgeland
Charles Dunagin, McComb
Ken Hester, Pontotoc
Allan Nix, Laurel
David Petty, Hattiesburg
Michael Weeks, Olive Branch
Heather Cumberland, secretary

Postmaster: Send changes of address
to **The BAPTIST RECORD**, P.O. Box
530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Send
news, communication, and address
changes to **The Editor, BAPTIST
RECORD**, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS
39205-0530 (601) 968-3800
Fax: (601) 292-3330
E-mail: baptistrecord@mbcb.org

VOLUME 125 NUMBER 25
(ISSN-0005-5778)

Published weekly except weeks of July 4
and Christmas by the Mississippi Baptist
Convention Board, 515 Mississippi Street,
Jackson, MS 39201. Subscription \$8.35 per
year payable in advance. Economy plans
available for cooperating Mississippi
churches. Periodicals postage paid at
Jackson, MS. Member, Association of State
Baptist Papers. Deadlines: News items —
one calendar week prior to requested pub-
lication date. Advertising — two calendar
weeks prior to requested publication date.

The consequences of sin

If anyone you know still believes the carefree, anything-goes sex orgy we call modern American culture carries no consequences, point them toward the sordid story of Gary Condit.

Unless you live in a cave where (mercifully) you have no access to the secular news media, you know that California Congressman Condit has been questioned four times by Washington, D.C., police in the case of Chandra Levy, a 24-year-old intern from the district he represents who has been missing since May 1.

Condit, a preacher's son who is married and the father of two adult children, finally admitted during his third session with police that he had an ongoing sexual relationship with Levy — a woman literally young enough to be his daughter — before she disappeared.

As is often the case in stories like this, the initial "big bang" news item was followed by a number of other embarrassing revelations in the fashion of a steady drip that resembles water torture.

A flight attendant has come forward to allege that Condit carried on a sexual relationship with her at the same time he was seeing Levy, and that when Levy disappeared, Condit pressured her to sign an affidavit attesting that she had never had sex with him.

Shortly after that, witnesses in Virginia claim to have seen Condit tossing a jewelry gift box into a dumpster from the driver's seat of his luxury car and speeding off into the night.

Then Condit's congressional staff was caught in a lame attempt to spread salacious rumors about Levy's sex life.

Though Condit continues to smile reflexively for the cameras, polls from his home district show that he has little chance of being reelected when he finishes his current term. His misery seems to have no end.

Oh, what a tangled web we weave...

Yes, sin has its consequences. Two thousand miles from home where he thought he was perfectly invisible, those consequences caught up with Gary Condit.

Turns out he wasn't invisible after all, and his carefully-planned political career is spinning out of control toward an untimely but well-deserved terminus.

Before we consign Condit to the ash heap of political history where he belongs, however, it would behoove us to take a long, hard look at ourselves.

After all, what kind of society would send someone like Condit to Congress?

A timid society that condones, or at least averts its collective eyes from, such conduct as his, preferring to be non-judgmental.

A gluttonous, thrill-seeking society bent on the never-ending acquisition of empty pleasure and hollow delight.

A sick society where Condit's lifestyle practices are applauded as manly and chic.

An arrogant society that has thrown off every moral and religious obstacle to bestial behavior, so that we may do as we want with whomever we want.

A lust-filled society that is more con-

"RIGHT NOW I'M TRYING
TO DECIDE IF I ROBBED THAT
BANK BECAUSE OF BURNOUT,
PSYCHOLOGICAL REPRESSION, OR
PERSONAL STUPIDITY."



cerned with the number of faceless serial sex partners one can tally, rather than the physical, emotional, and spiritual wreckage left in the wake of such behavior.

Come to think of it, Gary Condit isn't all that different from the society from which he sprang. Put another way, he is merely reflection of today's America.

Do you believe God is happy with that fact? The Bible and history provide ample proof that sin has its consequences for nations, as well as individuals.

Think about it, then pray about it.

GUEST OPINION:



Where are the laborers?

By Kimberly P. Davis, Richmond, Va.

Many of the villagers believed in the Lord as a result.

A year and a half later, Mrs. Muzonza died. Her husband had infected her with the HIV virus before deserting her.

It was not only Mrs. Muzonza. It was Snodia and Stanley. It was a dear friend of ours and his daughter who wasted away as well.

Twenty-four women died in my class in less than two years — about one-third of the class. We heard mourning wails constantly in our neighborhood during funerals of many others who died around us.

A young woman called me from the clinic where she had just had a baby girl, her second daughter.

I collected her with that naked, undersized baby. With extreme difficulty, I forced myself not to cry as I wrapped

that precious infant in my own teenage son's baby blanket from years past.

A few months earlier, this mother learned she was HIV positive. She also had accepted Christ.

"Amai, will I give my child the virus if I nurse her?" she asked with tears in her eyes.

"Yes," I said quietly.

"God, why are so many dying and I can't seem to do anything about it?" I asked. It seemed as though everyone I knew was touched by this disease firsthand or within the family.

I've seen the living skeletons, the makeshift graveyards where scores of bodies are laid to rest two feet apart, and the orphans who are left.

I've heard the wails and shovels digging incessantly like a bad dream.

I've smelled the sickly odor of death as a man breathed his last before my eyes.

I've touched the withered and weak hands of the dying.

If it were not for God's peace in knowing that these accepted the Lord Jesus, I would have been in the depths of despair.

In frustration, however, my questions are these: Where are the many laborers, including volunteers, to help us bring in this harvest?

Are westerners too afraid of AIDS to care that a whole region in Africa is dying, many of whom are innocent?

Will all hear the gospel before leaving this earth due to a miserable and humiliating disease?

All I can pray is that God will raise up courageous believers to take the gospel to the downcast and dying in southern Africa before it is too late.

For that, my hope soars.

Kim Davis and her husband, D. Ray, have been missionaries to southern Africa since 1992. Recently they moved to Richmond, Va., where Kim assists D. Ray as the Richmond associate for southern Africa for the International Mission Board. She can be contacted by e-mail at kimdray@att.net.

LifeWay 'redirection' to address changes

RIDGECREST, N.C. (BP) — A "redirection of ministry" is taking place at LifeWay Christian Resources of the Southern Baptist Convention, and Bill Taylor says churches are the focus.

Taylor spoke to a group of pastors, ministers of education, directors of missions, and others who had gathered to hear about the changes coming in LifeWay's Church Resources division.

The group met during the National Sunday School Leadership Development Event, July 16-21 at LifeWay's Ridgecrest Conference Center in North Carolina.

Taylor showed a chart illustrating the rising rate of U.S. population growth in the last 30 years and the declining rate of baptisms in Southern Baptist churches compared to that growth.

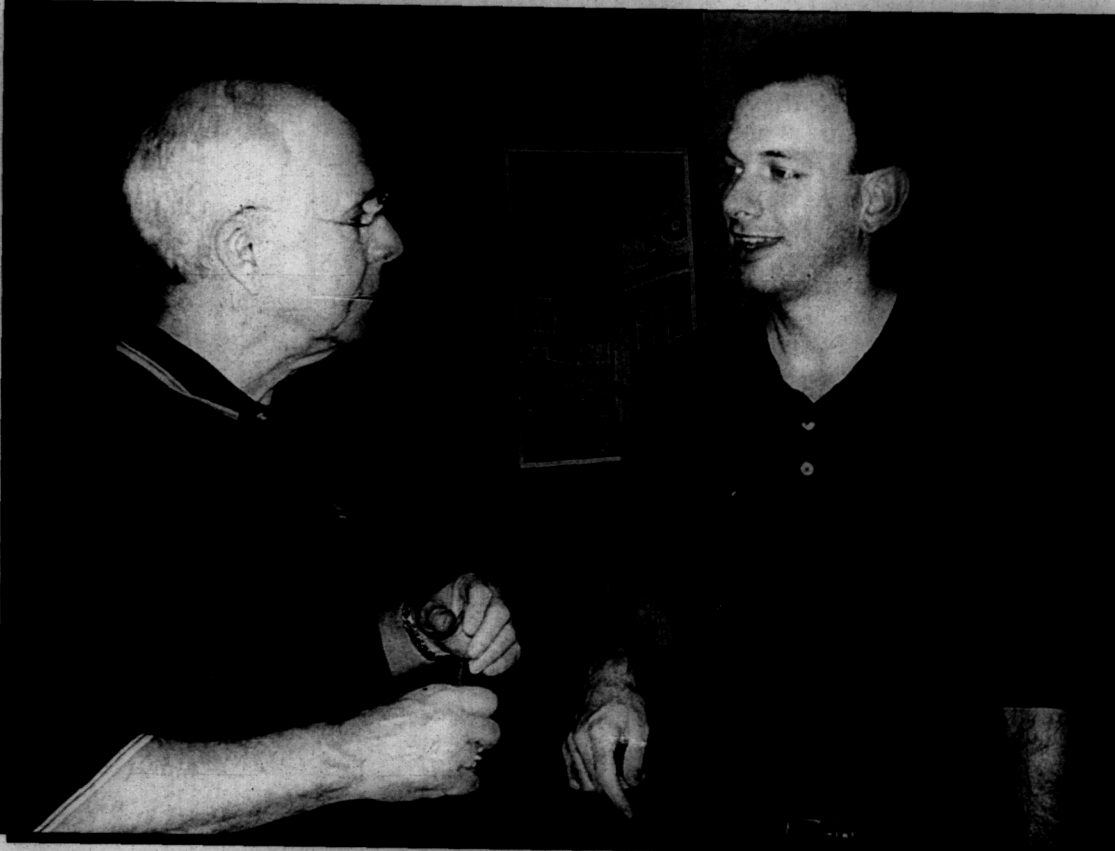
Based on those statistics, LifeWay has begun a "redirection of ministry. We're not reorganizing. This is a total redirection," Taylor said.

"You've heard this before. You're thinking, 'They are always reorganizing,'" he said.

"These changes are not going to happen overnight. They won't even happen in a year. It's going to take two or three years for all this to take place, but we are committed to seeing the changes," he pointed out.

Taylor said LifeWay will work toward "developing an understanding of the churches we serve now and in the future."

"We've got to get to know the churches and they need to get to know us. Unless we



ANSWERING QUESTIONS — Bill Taylor (left), director of the Sunday School Group at LifeWay Christian Resources, takes a moment to answer some questions posed by Tim Summers, minister of education at First Baptist Barnwell, S.C. Taylor spoke to various ministers and directors of missions at Ridgecrest to explain the reasons for the church resources redirection and what LifeWay hopes to accomplish through it. (Photo by Brandy Campbell)

develop relationships, we won't know your needs.

"If we share our needs, then we can come up with solutions," he said. "With intensity, we are going back into the fields. We are going to be partners helping churches."

He said another step LifeWay will be taking is to develop the right kind of organization.

As leader of an area called Network Partnerships, Taylor said LifeWay will be focusing on states, associations, seminaries, SBC entities, emerging networks, multipliers, and practitioner connections.

"All this will be done so we can get back to knowing the

needs of the churches and meeting those needs. Everything will relate to serving the churches," he said.

Taylor listed the priorities of Network Partnerships:

- be a proponent of the churches.
- be an advocate of the networks.
- carry the message of LifeWay.
- plan strategically with the networks.
- represent the concerns of the networks.

Taylor said that LifeWay will be using Model and Process (M.A.P.), a diagnostic tool to enable a church to identify current practices and determine what changes are needed to lead a lost person to Christ and enable that person to be spiritually transformed and equipped to minister to others.

"This M.A.P. is a very practical way for a church to deter-

mine where it is and what changes need to be made," Taylor said.

M.A.P. has been published in the revised and expanded edition of Kingdom Principles for Church Growth by Gene Mims, president of the LifeWay Church Resources division.

The book is available for \$7.95 through LifeWay Church Customer Service, (800) 458-2772, or LifeWay Christian Stores. The book also is available in Spanish and Korean.

In a related area, Taylor said LifeWay is going to "attempt some great things by 2005."

"We're planning to enlist a million people to pray for a great evangelical awakening; enlist and equip 100,000 new leaders; net 100,000 more new Bible study units; start 100,000 new churches; and baptize a million new believers."

Taylor said he is excited and looking forward to the



MISSISSIPPI
BAPTISTS

THE
SECOND
FRONT PAGE

THE BAPTIST
Record

PUBLISHED SINCE 1877

AUGUST 2, 2001

VOL. 125

No. 25

Turkmenis disrupt meeting

LONDON (BP) — A Baptist church in Turkmenistan was raided by secret police officers during a July 7 service, according to a Newsroom-online.com report. The news comes amid reports that Turkmen President Saparmurat Niyazov recently launched a campaign to stop the spread of Islamic schools. Newsroom based its news story on reports by Keston News Service, a British-based religious liberty monitor. Keston said five officers of the KNB, the former KGB, disrupted the meeting of Baptists in the western Turkmen town of Balkanabad. The officers recorded personal information about the people in attendance and warned them not to meet again under threat of confiscation of their church building. The Balkanabad church was registered in 1968 but was forced to re-register after Turkmenistan passed a restrictive religion law in 1996. Religious activists have been imprisoned and places of worship have been confiscated and destroyed among various groups, including Baptists, Jehovah's Witnesses, Seventh-day Adventists, and Hare Krishnas. During the July 7 raid, police warned the Baptists to not take their case to court. The officers referred to the case of a Pentecostal church in the capital Ashgabad that mounted an unsuccessful legal challenge to the confiscation of its building. In the past, Niyazov and other leaders in Central Asia have pointed to the threat of Islamic fundamentalism as justification for authoritarian policies. Niyazov, who had been appointed "president for life," announced earlier this year he would step down by 2010. He has ruled Turkmenistan for 15 years.

Looking back

10 years ago

God keeps his promise of protection, says 71-year-old Evelyn Graves. Graves, a member of Van Winkle Church, Jackson, recited the Old Testament's 23rd Psalm while burglars ransacked her home. She was not harmed during the incident.

20 years ago

Approximately 250 persons are stricken with severe food poisoning while attending events at Ridgecrest Baptist Conference Center in North Carolina. About 50 people are hospitalized in area medical facilities, while 200 more people are treated and released.

50 years ago

The people of Newton Church, Newton, are enjoying cool weather this summer — at least inside the church building — having just recently installed a state-of-the-art Chrysler Air Temp central air conditioning system. R. A. Morris is pastor.

Author: strong will in kids not negative trait

GLORIETA, N.M. (BP) — Strong-willed kids get a bad rap these days, Cynthia Tobias, author, speaker, CEO of her own company, and a self-acknowledged strong-willed adult, said.

"Sometimes when we're dealing with a stubborn, mule-headed kid, it's hard to believe that a strong will is not automatically a negative trait," Tobias told preschool and children's music leaders attending the Church Music Leadership Conference, June 14-20 at LifeWay Glorieta Conference Center in New Mexico.

"It's definitely not a negative trait. You want your kids to have a good dose of strong will."

"That's how a kid holds up and makes it through life," said the founder of Apple St. (Applied Learning Styles), Sumner, Wash., and author of *You Can't Make Me* (But I Can Be Persuaded): session for preschool and children's music leaders attending Strategies for a Church Music Leadership Conference at LifeWay Glorieta Conference Center, June 14-20. (Photo by Terri Lackey)

Best in Your Strong-Willed Child. Strong-willed kids have been called bad kids all their lives because they don't automatically do as they are told, she said.

"God has a lot of respect for what he built in us in the first place," Tobias said. "Being streetwise, edgy, and having a quick wit are OK if those things can bring honor and glory to God."

Tobias said strong-willed kids are willing to die for their causes.

"I learned at 18 months that nobody can make me digest peas. Maybe they can force one or two in my mouth, and maybe I'll accidentally swallow one, but you can't make me keep it down. That's up to me."

Parents and teachers cannot force strong-willed kids to obey them, she said.

"God is the only one who can force you to obey against your free will, but he never has. You have the final say whether you give the control to God or whether you keep it and perish."

It is easier to get a strong-willed kid to comply with a request than to try to force him or her to do something, she said.

Tobias said parents and teachers who

deal frequently with strong-willed kids might ask themselves, "What's the point?" when trying to win an argument.

Ask three questions, she advised:

- What needs to be accomplished?

- Is there another way to reach the goal?

- What's the bottom line?

Tobias said the issue with strong-willed kids is not authority but how the authority is communicated.

"You can't point your finger in my face and say, 'You have to obey me,'" she said.

You can persuade a strong-willed kid to do what you want, she pointed out.

"There is a magic word that will work about 80% of the time. The word is 'OK?' 'Put your seatbelt on, OK?'" Tobias explained.

Strong-willed kids don't expect or want to get by with bad behavior, she said.

"That would be weakness on your part. It's the respect that matters to them," she said.

Tobias urged teachers and parents of strong-willed children not to give up.

"You may be the only one left who still sees hope and promise in that child," she said.

"Even if you've about had it, and you're about at the end of your rope, don't give up. There are no accidents. God paid you such a compliment if you have [or teach] a strong-willed child," she said.

First Church, Columbia, to host renewal

First Church, Columbia, is having a Spiritual Renewal Emphasis every Monday evening during the month of August. Services begin at 6:30 p.m. Speakers will include:

- ◆ August 6: John Avant, pastor of New Hope Church, Fayetteville, Ga.

- ◆ August 13: Ron Herrod, full-time evangelist from Sevierville, Tenn.

- ◆ August 20: Darrell Robinson, evangelist and church growth consultant from Mobile, Ala.

- ◆ August 27: Jim Butler, pastor of Trinity Church, Southaven.

For more information, contact Wayne VanHorn, pastor of First Church, Columbia, at (601) 736-2608. E-mail: amos524@cblink.com.

Irritating behavior not wrong, expert observes

GLORIETA, N.M. (BP) — Adults get hired for almost everything they got in trouble for in school, said Cynthia Tobias, CEO and founder of Apple St. (Applied Learning Styles), Sumner, Wash.

"What irritates you most about a child is what makes them most successful when they grow up," Tobias told preschool and children's music leaders attending the Church Music Leadership Conference at Glorieta LifeWay Conference Center, June 14-20 in New Mexico.

Tobias said kids who talk a lot, who are highly energetic, and who are independent thinkers are the first to get hired as adults.

"Just because they are irritating you doesn't mean [the way they are acting] is the wrong way," said the author of several books on learning styles and strong-willed children.

In fact, because people learn in various ways, they act differently. This can be especially troubling to teachers who just want their students to sit quietly and take in the lessons, Tobias said.

"Teachers often discourage kids for doing exactly what they need to do to learn," she said.

Tobias interprets learning styles in three major areas — how people concentrate, how they remember, and how they interact with information.

Kids (and adults) concentrate in different ways, and environmental factors can have a huge impact on learning, Tobias said.

The five environmental factors that have the most effect on learning are time of day, food intake, amount of light, design of room, and temperature of room.

- Time of day. "Are you an early bird or a night owl?" she asked. "This is not a

small thing. If you do your hardest things at your best time of day, your productivity almost doubles."

- Food intake. "Some people need to eat to think, and some people are distracted by eating. If eating helps you concentrate on that test, by all means, eat."

- Lighting, bright or dim. "No one degree of light is best for anyone," she said, "but the bottom line is whatever works for you that doesn't strain your eyes."

"Very young children are automatically drawn toward areas best for them."

- Design, formal or informal. Some people and children need very formal workplaces with everything in its place, while some like mess and disarray.

"If you really want me to work, I need to be somewhere else besides a desk," she said.

- Temperature, cold or hot. "Not everyone is all that temperature sensitive. If it's a little too warm or little too cool, they can put on or take off a sweater."

"For about 25% of the people, temperature really matters. They can't even begin to think if it's too hot or too cold," she said.

Tobias said people also approach remembering information in different ways.

For example, she said auditory learners must hear themselves say the words. Children who are auditory learners often get in trouble for talking.

Visual learners create a picture in their mind's eye and have a vivid visual imagination, she said.

"If someone is talking to you, you get a picture. It might not be the right picture, but you get one. Teachers need to ask what sort of picture the kids are getting when they are telling them something," she said.

Kinesthetic learners must move while they learn.

"They need motion to remember. They shift positions, draw, and doodle. If they have to look at the teacher, then they can't hear what's being said," she said.

If kids are born to move and they can't move, what are they thinking about? Moving, she said.

"Why don't we just teach kids how to move in acceptable ways, like put them in a rocking chair? If we make them sit still, they are going to blow up," she said.

In the third area, Tobias noted that kids and adults interact with information in different ways. They have different cognitive styles.

Analytic thinkers, for example, focus on specific facts; they break information down into pieces and they remember details.

"We are not all born to be highly analytic thinkers. Some of you are not destined to be that ever in your life, but some are born pre-wired to be highly analytic and process information step by step," she said.

Analytic strengths are focusing on details, working independently, organizing, consistency, and doing one task at a time, Tobias said.

Global thinkers focus on the big picture; they get an overall understanding of the gist of things.

"They don't automatically remember details," said Tobias, who puts herself into the global category.

"Can I listen for details? Yes. If I know what kind of details I'm supposed to remember, I'm not stupid, but my mind works totally different than an analytic mind works," she said.

Videos to emphasize God's expectations

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (BP) — Finish this Bible verse: "Be still and ..."

Most people answer, "know that I am God," and they're partially right. The rest of Psalm 46:10 says, "I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth."

That verse is an example of how many modern Christians only know about half of the Bible, says Bob Sjogren, a missions mobilizer — and the half they know, he adds, is about God's promises to bless them, not about God's expectations of them.

Most Christians have a "bias toward looking at themselves in the Bible. They're so focused on God's desire to bless them, they don't see their responsibility to bless the nations," Sjogren teaches in *Unveiled: God's Heart for His People*, a new video series from New Hope Publishers, the general trade imprint of Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) auxiliary of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The desire to be blessed rather than to be a blessing makes church ministries an end in themselves, Sjogren says.

Instead, church ministries should draw believers to the Great Commission or non-believers to the Gospel.

Sjogren has lived and worked among Muslims in North Africa. He is now president of *Unveilingglory*, a ministry dedicated to increasing awareness of God's glory, based in Mechanicsville, Va.

The video series includes eight sessions, each approximately 30 minutes. A participant's workbook and leader's guide make the material user-friendly for small groups.

Response to the material released last fall has been "nothing but positive," Sjogren says.

One church that used the material reports that members' prayer requests are totally different afterward. Now members request prayer for world events and people groups rather than only personal issues.

Sjogren suggests that Christians should read the Bible with an eye for God's expectations of them as well as God's promises to them.

He also recommends that Christians pray for opportunities to be involved in being a blessing to other people groups.

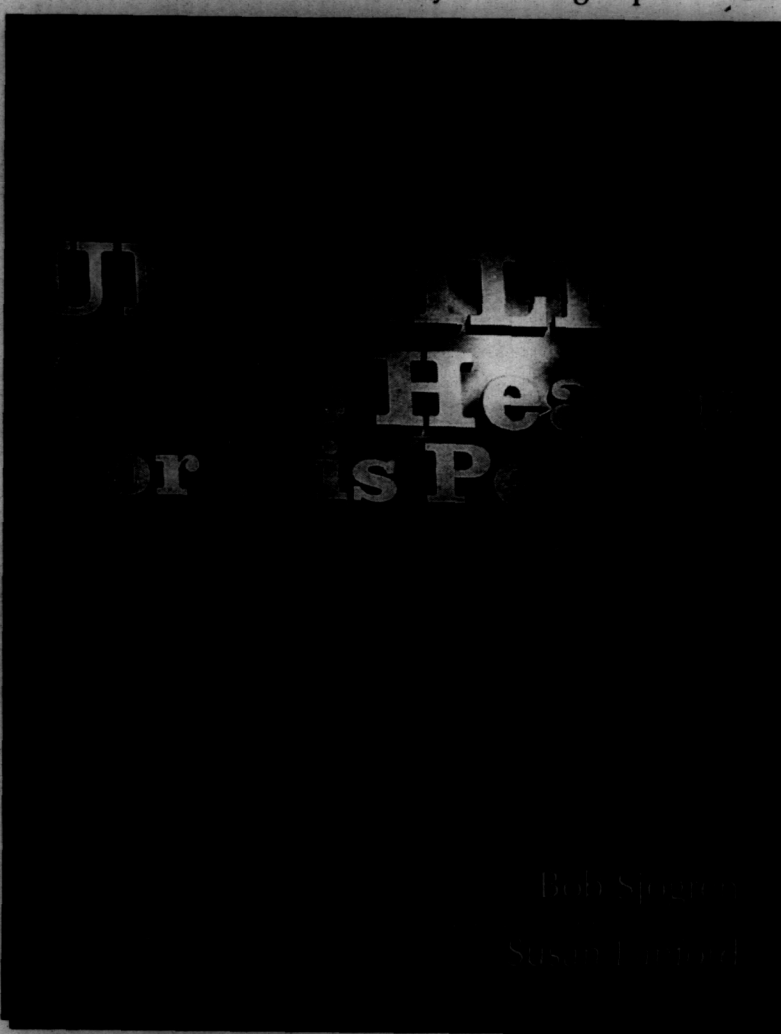
Sjogren also stresses that the Bible is one book with an introduction, a story, and a conclusion. The theme of the entire Bible is that God wants to bless his people so they can be a blessing.

Sjogren's approach to Bible study is refreshing, says Evelyn Blount, executive director/treasurer of the WMU auxiliary of the South Carolina Baptist Convention.

Blount consistently urges churches to use the *Unveiled* material.

"We study the Bible in bits and pieces rather than as a whole," she says. Looking at the Bible as one book makes it clear that God expects Christians to be a blessing to others.

To receive a free introductory video, call WMU's customer service at (800) 968-7301 and ask for item N015020.



'Born alive' bill OK'd by House comm.

WASHINGTON (BP) — The House of Representatives Judiciary Committee has approved legislation providing legal protection to newborn babies.

The committee voted 25-2 July 24 to report out the Born Alive Infants Protection Act, H.R. 2175. The bill would grant federal protection to any newborn child fully outside his mother's womb.

The Senate already has approved its version of such legislation. Senators voted 98-0 in late June for the measure as an amendment to the Patients' Bill of Rights.

The bill was first proposed last year after the U.S. Supreme Court struck down a state ban on partial-birth abortion and after congressional testimony was heard describing an abortion method in which newborns who are allowed to die.

The procedure, named testified to by a doctor at a hearing, was described as "a very, very painful procedure."

A RAINBOW IN MY SKY

Late last Friday afternoon a rainstorm passed through the Jackson area. The wind blew a bit, some rain fell, the clouds were dark, but I don't believe anything was damaged by the storm.

As the clouds passed over, the setting sun began to do a spectacular work on the canvass of the sky in the east. There, painted on the darkness, was a huge horizon-to-horizon rainbow! It was so magnificent that people were pulling off on the side of the road (as I did) just to soak in the splendor.

Soon, the one brilliant red, yellow, and blue rainbow became a double rainbow, spanning the same distance. From one side to the other, but seemingly a hundred or so feet above the first one, was the second rainbow. They appeared about 6:30 p.m. At 7:30 p.m. one rainbow was still visible, as bright as it had ever been.

I spoke to a neighbor and pointed to the heavenly painting and he said, "You don't see those much anymore."

I thought he might be right, but that's probably because we stay inside so much, and even when we are outside, we may not be looking at the heavens.

This rainbow was a glorious reminder of the original one which God placed in the heavens to be a continual



Directions

Jim Futral, executive director-treasurer
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

reminder of the covenant that he has with us. God Almighty made us a promise and as a sign and symbol, he hung a rainbow in the sky, signifying his promise to never destroy the earth again with water.

I thought about the ingredients that make up a rainbow. From a scientific standpoint, it is fairly easy to explain a rainbow. It is simply a little mist — droplets of water — hanging in the air, reflecting sunlight and causing the light to be broken down into its various components. It is God's huge prism creating a heavenly light display.

Like so many other powerful things of God, it seems so fragile and weak, possibly even insignificant. Why, a small bird could fly right through the symbol of God's promise!

That's the way the Lord does it. He takes small, weak, unusual things and transforms lives. That's the way it is with faith.

There are not many people, nations, or governments that would stake their futures on

faith, but God promises and knows it will work. Then consider love: what a flimsy, fragile thing it is and yet God reaches hearts and revolutionizes life experiences with love.

Now, consider the instructions of the rainbow. As I looked at the Friday afternoon display, I considered again the instructions that God sends to us through the rainbow.

He wants us to know how much he loves us — that's the reason he put it there. God wanted all of humankind to know that he dearly and deeply loves us.

Yet, he also wants us to know how much he hates sin. While there may be a de-emphasis on sin in the post-modern mindset, its consequences remain unchanged.

Sin destroys, and while many may not want to face its reality, sin is killing people, homes, churches, and politicians day after day. Regardless of whether or not you embrace, ignore, or entertain sin, the results are the same.

Then, like a page had been

taken out of the Bible and planted in my heart, came the inspiration of the rainbow:

• *God is able to bring good out of the bad.* I looked to the east and saw dark rain clouds, but the rainbow draped over their shoulders like a shawl.

I looked to the west and saw that the sun had broken through, looking like a giant orange sitting on the horizon. Storms are inescapable in life, but God is able to turn things around ever so quickly!

• *God keeps his care updated.* I was reminded of this by the rainbow. Great is Thy Faithfulness is more than just a song — it is God's loving care for us, and the phrase from the song, "morning by morning, new mercies I see," is God's tender arms around us, holding us tight.

• *God's Word is always true.* This was the bottom line, glorious truth that came to my heart. You can mark it down — God's Word was, is, and forever will be true!

You can find your way with the light of his Word. You can build your life on the solid foundation of his Word. You can come to know the glories of God's Son and our Redeemer, the Lord Jesus, by following the streets that lead to the Savior.

In ancient days, it was said that all roads lead to Rome. In biblical understanding, it can be said that all roads lead to the Redeemer, even the road of a rainbow.

JUST FOR THE RECORD



GAs of Williamsville Church, Kosciusko, pictured (from left) are Anne Plunkett, leader; Carrie Jones; Tabitha Webber; Sarah Plunkett; Whitney Woods; Allison Oakes; Kristy Ingold; and Marian Oakes, leader.

Staff changes

Silver Creek Church, McComb, has called **Evan Akins** as youth minister. He is a student at William Carey College (WCC) and plans to attend New Orleans Seminary after graduating from WCC in February 2002. Pat Bourg is pastor of Silver Creek Church.

First Church of Lyman in Gulfport called **Garland Boyd** as pastor effective July 8. A native of Brookhaven, Boyd has previously served as pastor of Benton Church, Benton, and Pleasant Valley Church, Meadville. He received his education from Clarke College, Mississippi College, and New Orleans Seminary.

VBS date

Bethlehem, Forkville: June 4-8; average attendance of 77 youth, children, and workers for the week; a total of \$468.35 was received for the Cooperative Program.

Van Winkle Church Furnishings & Pew Upholstery
Pews, pulpits, baptistries, stained glass, carpet, steeples, lighting, folding doors, theater seats.
Box 501, Fulton, MS 38843
In MS. Toll Free 1-800-624-9627

Fayette Church, Fayette, honored veterans during its Independence Day service on July 1. A. B. Duck (pictured in his service uniform) recently celebrated his 90th birthday. Eddie King is pastor.

Daniel Memorial Church, Jackson, will have Summer Celebration - First Monday, Aug. 6, at 7 p.m. Guest speaker is Frank Pollard, pastor of First Church, Jackson. Rick Greene, Madison, is the worship leader. Soldiers Again will be singing during the service. Steve Potts is pastor.

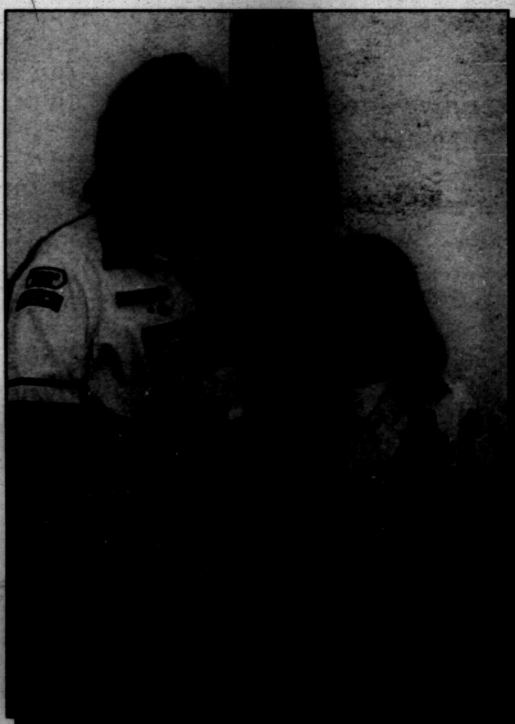
Time Out for Women is scheduled for Aug. 10 and 11 at First Church, Holly Springs. This year's theme is *When God Whispers Your Name*. The conference begins on Friday at 6 p.m. and concludes at noon on Saturday with a luncheon and fashion show. The keynote speaker is Marsha Waldrep Ford from Fort Smith, Ark. Praise and worship leaders are Sharon Williams of Memphis, Tenn., and Diane and Sarah Skillman of Mt. Pleasant. Featured soloist will be Karen Sanders of Memphis, Tenn. Registration is \$20. For additional information, call the church at (662) 252-2627.



Duck

Marshall Baptist Center in Marshall Association was dedicated in May. The estimated value of the property and building of \$170,000 is debt free. Don Stanfill is mission director of Lafayette / Marshall Association.

Twenty-two youth and adult sponsors from Escatawpa Church, Escatawpa, traveled to North Greenville College in South Carolina July 15-21 for Centrifuge Camp.



Roberts and Lewis

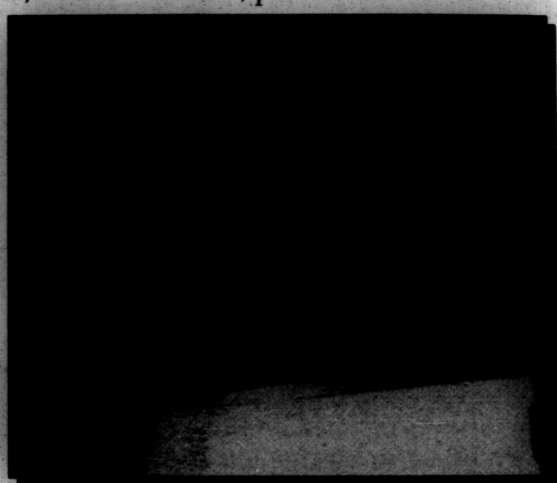
CHURCH BUSES
#1 MANUFACTURER
COMPETITIVE PRICING
SOUTHEASTERN BUS CO.
CLINTON, MS
1-800-423-9826
1-601-924-1982
ALL SIZES
SALES AND RENTALS

RAs of Williamsville Church, Kosciusko

RAs of Williamsville Church, Kosciusko, (pictured back row, from left) are Robert McCrory and Tim Oakes, leaders; Mack Vaughn; Casey Ingold; Gene Webber; Trey Tavares; Jacob Freedman; Ben East; Buck Buchanan, Danny Plunkett, and Joey Vaughn, leaders; (front row) Jacob Buchanan; Micah East; Bennet Womble; Cole Windham; Brock McCrory; and Brandon McCrory.

Robinhood Church, Rankin Association, dedicated a new pulpit given by Sue Hicks (right), in memory of her late

husband Henry Hicks. The pulpit, hand-constructed, was presented to the church in April. Pictured with Hicks is Don Nerren, pastor.



Nerren and Hicks

Members of AWANA (pictured above) of Hebron Church, Meridian, were recently recognized at an awards ceremony. Joann Roberts (left photo) was named Leader of the Year, and Brittany Lewis was named Clubber of the Year.

1004 Mississippi Churches Can't Be Wrong.

More than 1000 churches throughout Mississippi put their faith in Wellington Associates for comprehensive insurance services including property, general, and specific liability, vehicle, workers compensation, and other coverages. Wellington guarantees a quality program, customized for your ministry, at the most competitive premium rates.

For references and more information, call Mike Brooks at 601-353-2400 or 1-800-442-0290.

Wellington Associates, Inc.

NAMES IN THE NEWS



Dorroh and Mann

Jesse Dorroh and Kimberly Mann (pictured) of Walthall Church, Webster County, were nine year participants in Bible drill. Other youth were Corey Hillhouse and Patton Fulgham. Children were Kensie Henderson, Allyson Taylor, Tabitha Crowley, Kandi Ray, and Eleasha Fulgham. William Weddle is pastor.



Welford and Stevens

Esther Welford (right) was presented a plaque in honor of her 43 years of work in the children's Sunday School department of Rocky Creek Church, Lucedale. Pictured with Welford is Marshall Stevens, Sunday School director. Tony Meinhardt is pastor.

Hugh T. Smith, 91, died July 9 in Ocean Springs. Memorial services were held at Barham Funeral Home in Meridian with burial at Forest Lawn Cemetery. Smith was a former employee of the Baptist Children's Village. Before his retirement he was pastor of Daleville Church in Lauderdale County. Smith was preceded in death by his wife Lula Mae Franklin Smith.

GREAT NATION INVESTMENT CORP.

invites your indication of interest to:

FIRST MORTGAGE CHURCH BONDS

EARN UP TO: **10%**

These bonds may be placed in a self-directed IRA. Transfers and rollovers accepted, in most cases.

Interest Payable Quarterly

This announcement is neither an offer to sell nor a solicitation of an offer to buy. All offers are made by prospectus only.

GREAT NATION INVESTMENT CORP.

5408-A Bell • Amarillo TX 79109
Member NASD, SIPC

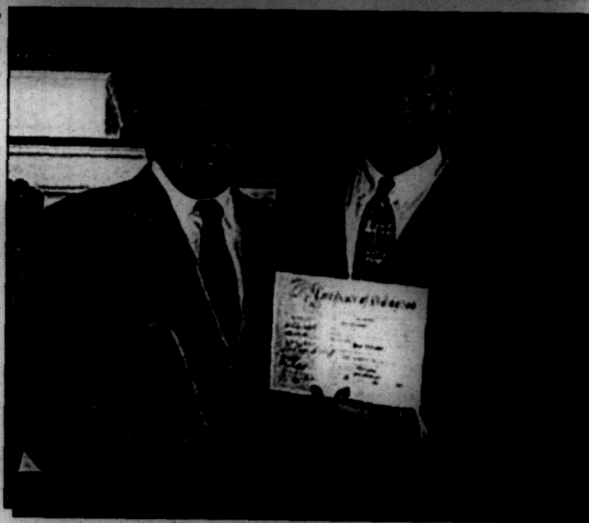
For more complete information about bond issues, obtain a prospectus which describes all of the particulars of the undertaking. Read it carefully before you invest or send money. All bonds are offered at face value, subject to availability.

CALL OR RETURN THIS TO:

Martin Northern 800-499-9997
PO Box 1902 801-816-8100
Benton, AR 72019-1902 Fax 801-816-8110

Please send the information on the First Mortgage Church Bonds currently being offered by Great Nation Investment Corp.

Brad Chandler was ordained to the ministry on Sunday, July 8, by Ecu Church, Pontotoc County. He is serving as minister of youth at Dumas Church in Union County. Pictured with Chandler (right) is Ronnie Hatfield, pastor of Ecu Church.



Hatfield and Chandler

Calvary Church, Belmont, Tishomingo Association, recently licensed James Underwood and Reid Kirk to the ministry. Underwood is a sophomore at Northeast Mississippi Community College, Booneville. Kirk is a junior at Blue Mountain College. Pictured (from left) are Underwood; Ray Kirk, pastor; and Reid Kirk.



Underwood, Ray Kirk, and Reid Kirk



Six members of Farmhaven Church, Canton, traveled to the Central American country of Honduras on a medical-dental mission trip. Pictured (from left) are Becky Faulkner, Cheri Tadlock, Debra Chafin, and Alberta Renfro. Not pictured are Cindy Lavender and Bradley Woodward. Charles Gentry is pastor.

LIFEWAY'S EXCLUSIVE BUS SOURCE

Carpenter Bus Sales, Inc.

Brentwood, TN ♦ Since 1953

Church Buses ♦ Vans ♦ New & Used



We buy used buses

LifeWay Discount

(800) 370-6180

Available in 20' to 37' models

(12 to 47 passengers, New & Used)

www.carpenterbus.com

LifeAnswers

Ron Mumbower, Ph.D.
Minister of Counseling
First Church, Jackson

Our son is ending his marriage to be with a woman who is also ending her marriage to be with him. Our hearts are breaking. How do we deal with this tragedy?

As his parents, you are feeling embarrassed and ashamed. After all, you "raised him better than that," didn't you? You now must release your adult son to make his own choices and ultimately learn the hard lessons that come with his mistakes. You did the same thing on a lesser scale when you let him walk for the first time, ride a bike, and drive a car. Let your love speak, not to condone his behavior but to be givers of grace. You have the privilege of praying for your son and his family, as well as the woman he wants to marry and her family. Do that, and let God do the convicting. Do not sacrifice your availability as he will need you down the road. Acknowledge your relationship with him, but insist that he respect your boundaries and don't let him walk all over

you. Remember this important fact — You are not responsible for your children; you are responsible to your children.

Why do some people see wrong in everything other people do and not in themselves?

They would never admit it, but whenever someone has to put down another in order to raise himself, this shows a basic lack of self-confidence. The best way to break this pattern is to highlight their good points and not overreact to their put downs. In other words, don't encourage the improper behavior. Do encourage them when they do right, which frankly may be seldom and will require a lot of serious searching. This type of person gets satisfaction from watching others squirm. They cannot handle the thought that someone just might be able to do something better than they can do it. Pray for such people, that God will open their eyes and hearts, and convict them of the wrongfulness of their transgressions.

Send your counseling questions to LifeAnswers c/o The Baptist Record, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Please be brief. Name is not required. In central Mississippi, Ron Mumbower can be heard from 9-10 a.m. each Wednesday on WHJT-FM 93.5. Remember, in time of crisis, your pastor can make recommendations on your counseling needs.



YOU CAN RESPOND RIGHT NOW!

Simply share the following prayer with God in your own words:

1. Lord, I admit that I need you.
(I have sinned.)
2. I want forgiveness for my sins and freedom from eternal death.
(I repent.)
3. I believe Jesus died and rose from the grave to forgive my sins and to restore my relationship with you.
(I believe in Jesus.)
4. By faith, I invite Jesus Christ into my life. From this time on, I want to live in a loving relationship with him.
(I receive Christ as my Savior and Lord.)

But as many as received him, to them he gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in his name (John 1:12).

If you make a decision for Jesus Christ today, contact a local Baptist church for spiritual guidance.

REVIVAL DATES

Pine Grove, Picayune: Aug. 19-22; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Ronald T. Meeks, Blue Mountain College, evangelist; Wayne Carter, New Palestine, music; Reggie Bridges, pastor.

First, Batesville: Aug. 12-15; Sunday, 11 a.m., followed by fellowship luncheon, and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Thomas Vinson, Winter Park, Fla., evangelist; Edd Brashier, New Albany, music; Alan Kilgore, pastor.

Wheeler Grove (Alcorn): Aug. 5-8; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Danny Lanier, evangelist; Kara Blackard, pastor.

Providence, Grenada: Aug. 5-10; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Fri., 7 p.m.; William Brown, Clayton, Ala., evangelist; Don Montgomery, Grenada, music; Harvey V. Springer, pastor.

Bethany, Meridian: Aug. 5-8; Sunday, 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Tim Childers, Mableton, Ga., evangelist; Buddy McElroy, Meridian, music; Danny Balint, pastor.

Cascilla, Cascilla: Aug. 12-15; Sunday, 10:45 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Jim Futral, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, evangelist; Andy Cummings, Grenada, music.

Strong River, Pinola: Aug. 5-8; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Donnie Guy, Gulfport, evangelist; Steve Walker, Pinola, music; Roger Lee, pastor.

Hopewell, Little Rock: Aug. 9-11; services, 7 p.m.; Danny Lanier, evangelist; Marion Felton, music.

Concord, Yazoo City (Little Yazoo): Aug. 5-8; Sunday, 11 a.m., followed by noon meal, and 1:30 p.m. service; Mon.-Wed., 7:30 p.m.; Steve Jackson, Pearl, evangelist; Tommy and Carol Joy Sparkman, Clinton, music; James F. Yates, pastor.

Wayside, Vicksburg: Aug. 5-8; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Randall Creel, Lake, evangelist; Bud Shiers, Vicksburg, music; Larry W. Haggard, pastor.

McLaurin Heights, Pearl: Mondays in August at 7 p.m.; Aug. 6, David Ring, evangelist; Aug. 13, Paid in Full, singing group; Aug. 20, Gary Permenter, youth evangelist, and Scott Adkins, worship pastor; and Aug. 27, Frank Pollard, Jackson, evangelist, and Allen Harris, Oxford, music.

Hebron (Panola) Aug. 12-15: Sunday, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Joe Lamb, evangelist; Mike Britt, music; Alice Ann Thornton, pianist; Travis Trammel, interim pastor.

Main Street, Mendenhall: Aug. 5-8; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Billy Guest, Magee, evangelist; Roger Welch, music; Dewitt Mitchell, pastor.

Rock Bluff, Smith County: Aug. 6-8; 7:30 p.m.; Jack Duplechain, Tennessee, speaker; Ray Gates, Galilee Church, music; Debbie Clark, pianist; Mike Clark, pastor.

First, Overt: Aug. 6-8; 7 p.m. nightly; Valton Douglas, evangelist; Robert Fennell, music; Warren Griffin, pianist; Tommy D. Mangum, pastor.

Antioch (Itawamba): Aug. 6-8; 7:30 p.m. nightly; Charlie Cooper, evangelist; James Rutledge, pastor.

Immanuel (Panola): Aug. 26-31; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Fri., 7 p.m.; Alan Kilgore, Batesville, evangelist; Pat Herron, music; Eugene Howell, pastor.

Mt. Vernon, West: Aug. 3-5; Fri. and Sat., 7 p.m.; Sunday, singing, 10 a.m., service, 11 a.m., lunch at noon, and 7 p.m.; Bobby Waggoner, evangelist; Steven Green, music.

Longview, Starkville: Aug. 5-8; Sunday, 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Robert Beadle, Benton, La., evangelist; Bruce White, Starkville, music; Steve Huber, pastor.

First, Laurel: Aug. 12-15; Sunday, 10:30 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., noon services and lunch, and 7 p.m.; Nelson L. Price, Nelson Price Ministries, Inc., Kennesaw, Ga., evangelist; Roger Christian, Marietta, Ga., music; Randall Turner, pastor.

Whitesand, Prentiss: Aug. 12-16; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 6

p.m.; weekday services, 10 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Rick Cato, Sycamore, Ala., evangelist; Tommy Creel, Brandon, music; Stan Cheatham, pastor.

Liberty (Carroll): Aug. 5-8; 7 p.m. nightly; Gary Jackson, French Camp, evangelist; Joe Styron, music; Riley Ainsworth, pastor.

Holcomb, Holcomb: Aug. 5-8; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7:30 p.m.; Jim Futral, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, evangelist; Johnny Little, music; Randall Ashley, pastor.

HOMEcomings

Juniper Grove, Poplarville: Aug. 12; Dionne Williams, guest speaker, will speak at 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.; lunch served at noon.

Cascilla, Cascilla: Aug. 5; Lynn Turner, former pastor, guest speaker; Kilgore Sisters singing in afternoon.

Rock Bluff (Smith County): Aug. 5; 11 a.m.; Jack Duplechain from Tennessee, speaker; George Boone, music; Mike Clark, pastor.

Little Bahala, Wesson: Aug. 12; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; worship, 10:50 a.m.; lunch following morning service, and music in the afternoon; W. H.

Debold Jr., speaker; Dale Heard and Sue Lea, music; revival, Mon.-Wed., Aug. 13-15, 7 p.m.

First, Overt: Aug. 5; 10:45 a.m., lunch in fellowship hall, and 1:15 p.m. service; Valton Douglas, speaker; Tommy D. Mangum, pastor.

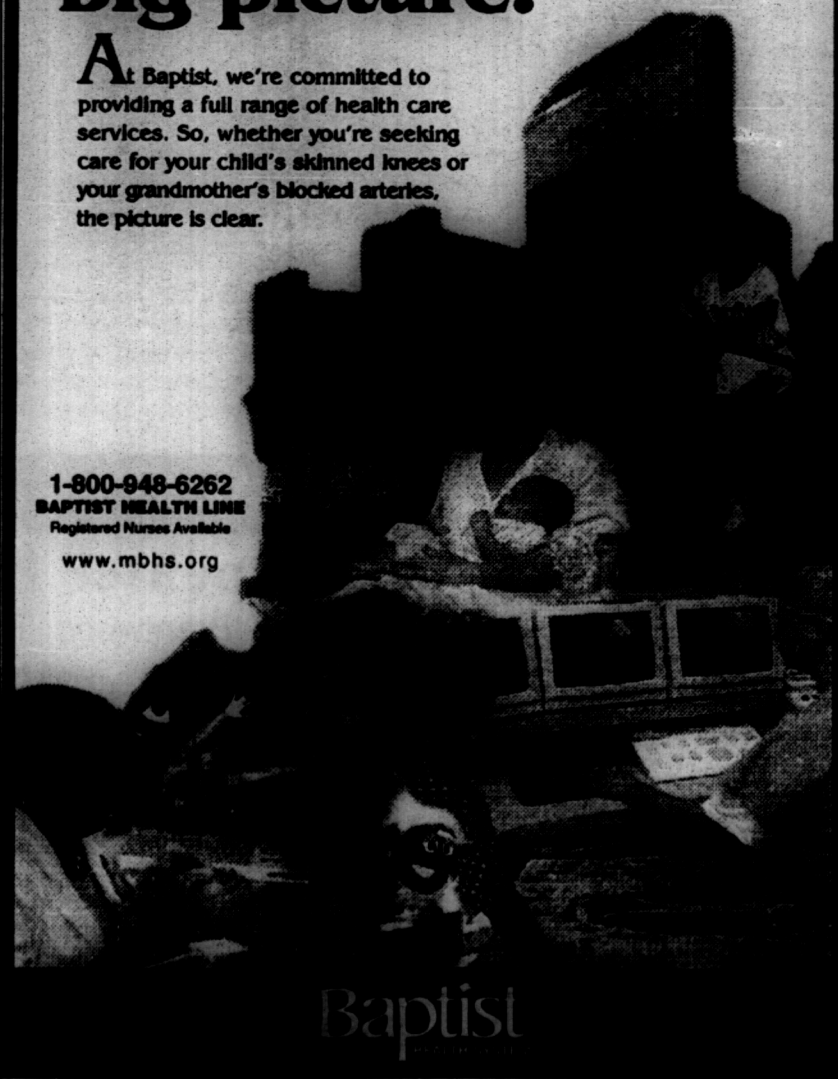
New Home (Smith): Aug. 12; 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m. with lunch at noon.

Fellowship, Ellisville: Aug. 12; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m.; Cecil Hathorn, Harrisville, former music director, speaker; dinner at noon in fellowship hall; Mercy River from Petal singing at 1:30 p.m.

Look at the big picture.

At Baptist, we're committed to providing a full range of health care services. So, whether you're seeking care for your child's skinned knees or your grandmother's blocked arteries, the picture is clear.

1-800-948-6262
BAPTIST HEALTH LINE
Registered Nurses Available
www.mbhs.org



Are your seniors tired of crawling over the HUMP? The solution is a 15-passenger van with an aisle, raised roof & electric step.

Call Tri-State Van & Bus Today! 1-800-330-3622
BUSES! VANS! PEOPLE MOVERS!
www.tri-statevanbus.com

CLASSIFIED
We have a variety of services for sale. Call us for more information. We are located in the heart of the city. Call us today. We are open 24 hours a day. We are open 24 hours a day. We are open 24 hours a day.

ALLEN MDS-40-S DIGITAL ORGAN. Perfect condition. Contact Jim or Susan Link @ (601) 264-2116.

CFI — PEWS, NEW & used. Baptistries, steeples, & stained glass, MS & AL. (800) 830-0583.

INTERIOR ELEMENTS STAINED GLASS STUDIO: Custom church windows. Columbus - toll free (877) 477-1899.

CUSTOM STAINED GLASS windows for churches and homes. Stained Glassworks, Inc. (800) 605-2970.

CHURCH PEW UPHOLSTERY Free estimates. Davis Upholstery, Quitman, Miss., phone (601) 776-6617.

LEARN THE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE. Print the e-book from our website www.goldenkeys.com.

BRANSON, MO CONDO - sleeps six. Stay 3 nights, 4th free or 5 nights, 6th and 7th free. Free coffee, tea, and cocoa. \$100.00 daily. Register for free return trip. Accommodates large groups. Call early for reservations (662) 746-4632.

WE SPECIALIZE IN VANS Featuring 6 to 15 passenger vans, customized and panel vans. Daily and weekly rates. Auto & Truck Rental, Jackson (601) 948-3391. Since 1965.

SUPER GRACE BEACH HOUSE for rent. Excellent for staff retreats or family vacations. Located in a private subdivision at the beach at Fort Morgan, Ala. Visit our website at <http://super-grace.jumptravel.com> or call Allan or Linda Rankin at (888) 784-4025.

SUPPORT ANNUITANTS

Editor:

Christian friends, there is a tremendous need within Southern Baptist churches — taking care of God's retired servants who are desperately in need. We have hundreds of these retired pastors and pastors' widows in Mississippi who daily have to choose between medicine, food, clothing, and even housing.

Taking care of these retired servants should come before buses, vans, banners, or anything else we do to make our churches more beautiful or more comfortable, but this is not happening.

June 24 was Adopt An Annuitant Sunday all across the Southern Baptist Convention, and I wonder how many churches had any kind of program about the people who have served God all their lives and now have to do without — simply because we have so many luxuries that come first!

Here in Jackson, we have started the Retired Ministers Benefit Golf Tournament and in four

years have raised \$40,000 to assist these retired servants. However, when you divide that amount by the hundreds of needy retired servants in our state (and thousands across America), you can see that \$40,000 is just a drop in the bucket. There are lots of ways you and your church can help, but please do it now!

Andy Holder
Jackson

Editor's note: Holder, who coordinates the Retired Ministers Benefit Golf Tournament, can be contacted at 5314 Caseload Circle, Jackson, MS 39212. Telephone: (601) 373-9520.

BASIC TRAINING OFFERED

Editor:

The Mississippi State University (MSU) Baptist Student Union (BSU) will host BASIC Training on Aug. 17-19. All incoming freshmen and transfers at MSU are invited to attend this fun-filled weekend of building relationships and learning to make a smooth

transition to life on a university campus. Participants will be hosted at Adaton Church, Calvary Church, Faith Church, and First Church, Starkville, for meals. The cost for the weekend is \$20 which includes a BASIC Training T-shirt and all meals. You may register or find out more by calling the BSU office at (662) 323-5761.

Michael Ball, MSU BSU dir.
Starkville

SEEKING CADET INFO

Editor:

Heritage Church in Annapolis, Md. is seeking information on any students who will be attending the United States Naval Academy this year. The church has historically had strong ties to the Academy and welcomes the opportunity of ministry and service to midshipmen. Please contact me at Heritage Baptist Church, 1740 Forest Drive, Annapolis, MD 21401, if you know of someone who will be attending the academy. I may be reached by phone

at (410) 263-6680 or by fax at (410) 263-0996.

Henry Green, pastor
Heritage Church
Annapolis, Md.

SEEKING N.E. STUDENTS

Editor:

Are there students from your state who will be enrolling in one of the many universities in New England (Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont)?

We would like to know who they are and how to contact them. We would be happy to meet them at airports or train stations, and help them in any way.

The Baptist Convention of New England (BCNE) serves these six states and has ministry on many of the campuses.

Send information to: Collegiate Ministries, Baptist Convention of New England, 87 Lincoln Street, Northborough, MA 01532; call (508) 393-6013, ext. 233; or fax (508) 393-6016.

John Ramirez, BCNE
Northborough, Mass.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Unsigned letters will not be printed. No multi-copy or form letters will be used.

Each correspondent must include an address and telephone number for verification. In special instances, name may be withheld at writer's request and editor's discretion.

Please include the name of cooperating Mississippi Baptist church where correspondent is a member. (Mississippi Baptists' letters will receive priority when space is limited.)

Letters must be limited to 250 words. All correspondence is subject to editing.

Correspondents should refrain from personal attacks. The opinions expressed in letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the views of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

No more than one letter from any individual will be printed during a three-month period.

When in the judgement of the editor a given issue has received sufficient attention, correspondence dealing with it will no longer be published and a notice will be printed to that effect.



WILLIAM CAREY COLLEGE

... small enough for individual attention

... large enough for academic excellence

with campuses in
Hattiesburg • Gulfport • New Orleans

It's not too late to register for fall classes!

Call 800-962-5991 ext. 103
or visit our website at www.wmcarey.edu

Update

Due to a scheduling conflict, Fred Wolfe of the Mississippi Baptist Convention will not be speaking at the Antioch Church Conference. For more information on the conference, contact the church pastor at (662) 328-4761.

FAMILY BIBLE STUDY

Following the risen Lord

John 21:1-25

By Kathy Mord Alford

Last evening my friends and I, exhausted by recent bewildering experiences, returned to our familiar, comfortable life of the sea.

The rhythm of the boat, the texture of the rope in my hand, and the particular scent of the water crowded newer memories, vying for first place in my bursting heart. I cast the net mechanically, shouting automatic instructions to the others.

It felt good, this feeling of knowing what to do and what was expected of me, of being in control. Felt good, but didn't exactly feel right. Something was missing.

Though the feelings fit like a glove, the sense of belonging

was gone. I worked all night trying to belong to the sea again. It didn't happen. There was no doubt in my mind now: I belonged to Jesus. The old Simon Peter belonged to the sea.

You were right in asking if I loved you, Lord, for in so doing, your question forced me to resolve my faith in you. Until I understood the depth of my love for you, I could not join you in fellowship or obey your command to leave my old life behind and to follow you.

In all your ways you have instructed me to live and love so that your name will be magnified. When I denied you, I felt as though my very soul would die, for even then, I belonged to you.



Alford

You knew the temptation facing me and you warned me of it. Yet I allowed my own weak will to take control, dictating my reaction.

After you rose victorious from the grave, I was so ashamed of my sin, but, more than anything else, I knew that I wanted — no, needed — to be near you, even if you shunned me.

Whatever my motives were in denying you, Lord, you forgave me. Now you have called me to your side, your precious, pierced side, to restore me to your love. Such a love is too great for me to comprehend, but I pray that each day of my life I may show that same love to the world as you commanded us.

You told us, "If someone loves me, he will keep my word; and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him."

You chose the others and me as your disciples because you saw the potential in us to be trustworthy and faithful to your covenant.

After teaching us and walking with us, even knowing that we would fail you, you called us your friends. "No longer slaves," you said, "but friends," because you trusted us and told us everything you heard from your Father.

The new covenant bound us forever as covenant friends, your life in exchange for mine, and I can rest in your promise that you will abide with me forever, confidently believing that I do love you, my covenant friend.

My prayer is that I will live my life henceforth in your spirit of love and power and self-control, always grateful that you forgave my sins and always alert to the temptations that make me stumble.

You gifted me with a picture of Satan stalking about like a roaring lion, trying to paralyze

me with fear, but you, Lord Jesus, have demonstrated through your humility and suffering how to stand firm against him, because you are more powerful than the enemy.

Your tender mercy reconciles me now, restoring me to union with you; and you have promised that you will always personally lift me up when I fail, set me firmly in place, and make me stronger than ever.

The sun rises high in the sky now, Lord, and as we walk on the seashore, our feet etch a new path. You lead me away from my former friend, the sea, and into unfamiliar pastures. The life I know, I am dead to.

Now you are calling me into a new life. Only you can turn this old fisherman into a shepherd. I follow you, Lord Jesus. I follow your way and, under your mighty hand, I humble myself to do your bidding.

Alford is a member of First Church, McComb.

EXPLORE THE BIBLE

Because I love you

Hosea 8:1-10:15

By Harold Simmons

God was about to punish his children, but it is a punishment that has the aim of correction. This action although harsh is not simply punitive. Because of the love that he had for Israel and Judah, he took action to correct their "adulterous" behavior.

Behavior modification was the goal. It appeared that the only way to put the covenant people back in the right relationship with God was destruction of the old and rebuilding.

The need for correction (8:1-6). Something needed to be done before it was too late. God could not let rebellion continue to exist because of his righteousness and because of the covenant that existed between him and his people.

God said to sound the alarm (trumpet) because the enemy was about to approach. Hosea then used a bird of prey, the eagle which is an unclean bird, to symbolize a Gentile nation that was about to prey on the house of Israel.

Because the alarm was given the people cried out that they "knew" the Lord, but their lives did not change. They were going through the rituals (motions) but that is all.

God wanted more than that. He wanted the heart and life to change and exhibit real love. This is not just a message to the 8th century Jew. It is a message for us today!

There was no real change on the Israelites' part. They rejected "what is good." Rejecting



Simmons

God is a path that leads to destruction and death. The Scripture tells us: "There is a way that seems right to man, but the ends thereof is death."

Verse 4 indicates that they set up rulers that were not God's choice. In fact, they did not consult the Lord at all about the selection of governmental leaders. The country was no longer a theocracy — God-led.

They also contaminated the true worship of God by making their own gods. With these gods came a different set of moral values that did not fit with those that God had given.

All of this was completely contrary to the covenant they had with God. Thus, God had no choice but to take action designed for correction for people who seemed incapable of living in the right relationship with God or each other.

The method for correction (8:7-10; 9:15,17). God described the problem and in

this section of study he tells of his method of correction. His judgement would turn their "wind" into tornadoes.

What they have sown will come back but at a destructive velocity. They disregarded the seriousness of their decisions to go away from the Lord. He showed them just how serious he was about the covenant and his laws.

The earth would not produce the needed grain for the everyday staple of food — bread. The grain that was produced was eaten by invading armies who lived off the land and its produce. Israel would be swallowed up by Assyria as though she were nothing.

Israel sought security alliances with Assyria that would cost them their freedom and status as a nation. God allowed this to happen because they forgot their covenant with him and went their own selfish way.

The aim of correction (10:12). If the people of the covenant would turn to God,

they could expect mercy. Some of the people did repent and it was from this small group of people that the "remnant" would come. The remnant would be the basis for the rebuilding of the nation that God wants.

The agricultural image continues: "sow righteousness and reap unfailing love (*hesed*). To break up unplowed ground is hard labor.

It is hard to be repentant and have a heart broken up for the sins committed against God and fellowmen. It was difficult in Hosea's day and it is difficult for us today, but that is what the Lord wants for his people so that he can shower his people with his righteousness.

"Time" denotes a short and passing period for their response. This is the aim of the Lord's corrective action—genuine repentance and faith in the Lord. We don't have a lot of time to respond to God's invitation to repent and obey!

Simmons is pastor of Hebron Church, Grenada.

Guidelines for submitting news and photographs

The Baptist Record is pleased to publish news and photographs of special events that take place in cooperating churches of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

News submitted for publication in The Baptist Record must be either (a) typewritten, (b) neatly printed on 8 1/2 by 11-inch paper, or (c) neatly printed on standardized forms provided by the newspaper. All articles must be received in writing; no articles will be accepted over the telephone.

News may be submitted electronically to the address below, and must be contained in the message segment of an e-mail form. Due to increasing virus threats,



no text attachments will be accepted. Photograph attachments are permissible.

Please make articles concise. Include the who, what, when, where details of the story, along with a contact person's address and telephone number.

Photographs may be color or black and white. Instant photos and digital printouts are not reproducible. Digital photos may be used if submitted as a JPEG file via either (a) e-mail, (b) three-and-a-half inch floppy disk, or (c) CD. Photos must be clear, sharp, and well-lighted.

All news items are subject to editing, and all photographs are subject to cropping. News items and/or photographs can be published one time only. Deadline for submitting news is one week prior to requested publication date.

Articles that are not date-sensitive will be published on a space-available basis. Requests to return photographs must be accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

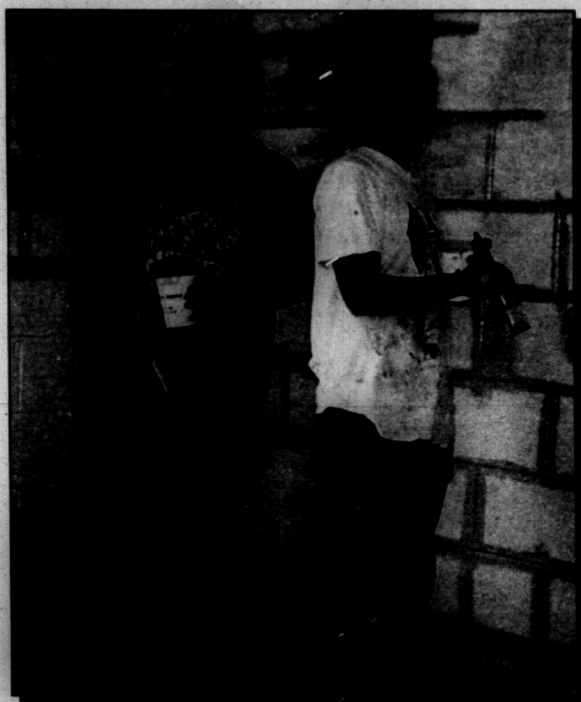
Submit news and photographs to The Baptist Record, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. FAX: (601) 292-3330. E-mail: baptistrecord@mbcb.org.

THE VILLAGE VIEW



Ronny E. Robinson, Executive Director

P.O. Box 27
Clinton, MS 39060-0027
(601) 922-2242
e-mail: bcv1@misnet.com



Youth and adults from Emmanuel Church, Greenwood spent several days at The Baptist Children's Village helping with grounds and maintenance. The group painted a cottage, built drawers for some of the closets, and worked in flower beds.

To apply for a Live-In Child Care Worker position at the India Nunnery Campus in Jackson, please contact:



Peggy Taylor
The Baptist Children's Village
P.O. Box 27
Clinton MS 39060-0027

(601) 922-2242
bcv1@misnet.com

- No special experienced required. We will train.
- Couple and single positions available.
- Excellent medical/retirement benefits.
- Room and board.
- Good Salary

"This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine."

☐ **YES!** I want to help

The Baptist Children's Village
be a lighthouse for hurting families
and children in Mississippi.



Enclosed is my tax deductible gift of...

- ☐ \$15 for new underwear for one child.
- ☐ \$30 for one child's weekly meals.
- ☐ \$45 for school supplies/fees for one child.
- ☐ \$50 for a jacket for one child.
- ☐ \$200 for new school clothes and shoes for one child.
- ☐ \$1,500 for a new computer for a cottage.
- ☐ \$7,800 to help support The Baptist Children's Village for one day.
- ☐ \$ _____ for general use to provide for our children.

Please make your check payable to:
The Baptist Children's Village
P.O. Box 27
Clinton, MS 39060-0027

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY/STATE/ZIP _____
TELEPHONE _____
E-MAIL _____



AIDS sweeping Africa at devastating pace

SANYATI, Zimbabwe (BP) — The elderly woman sits in silence just outside the hospital's open door. The electricity is off, but she doesn't notice the darkness.

For the past few days this elderly woman sat next to her daughter, holding her hand, coaxing her to eat. When the daughter shivered from burning fever, she added an extra blanket.

As visitors came and went, the mother

made sure everyone greeted her daughter, even after she was comatose.

When the room filled with the sickening, sweet smell of death, everyone left but the mother. Still smiling. Still hoping.

It is estimated that, due to AIDS, sub-Saharan Africa will have 71 million fewer people by 2010 than it would have. United Nations AIDS statistics project that by the year 2010 there will be 40 million AIDS orphans in Africa alone.

In 20 years, AIDS has killed 22 million people worldwide — most without a knowledge of Christ. AIDS sufferers urgently need to hear the Good News of God's love and forgiveness.

Chaplain Philemon Satiya counsels hundreds of them each week.

"By the time I see the patients, most are already wondering about life and death," he says.

"Most pray to receive Jesus Christ as their Savior. Even though it's too late for them to physically survive, it's never too late for God to welcome another child into his kingdom."

Last year Philemon prayed with more than 740 people to receive Christ.

Hope is what Zacchaeus has found. His sunken, tightly drawn face is identical to most AIDS victims, but there's something different about him.

Zacchaeus has a contagious smile that never ceases. He doesn't sit around and think about death. He walks around talking and singing about life.

"Sure, maybe it is my fault that I have it," he says, "but you know, God doesn't look around and see if you have one leg or two. He wants you as you are."

God is Zacchaeus' strength and hope. "God has rules," Zacchaeus says. "If you follow them you don't get AIDS."

AIDS education is on the rise in the schools and on the radio and television.

As the next generation learns about prevention, Christians join the crusade with True Love Waits campaigns teaching "God's rules."

It is going to take a miracle, but God can work miracles — and his children can pray and work.

• Compelling on-line video: <http://www.tconline.org/Stories/July01/aidsvid.html>.

• Africa AIDS photos: <http://www.tconline.org/Stories/July01/aids1.html>.

• A full-color map tells the story of AIDS in Africa: <http://www.tconline.org/Stories/July01-map2.html>.

• True Love Waits resources for teens, parents and leaders: <http://www.lifeway.com/tlw>.

• Read about a True Love Waits project in Zimbabwe: http://www.imb.org/southern-africa/true_love_waits.htm.

• Free 14-day prayer guide on the Africa AIDS crisis: <http://www.imb.org/resources>.

• Free Africa prayer map: <http://www.imb.org/resources>.



AT DEATH'S DOOR — Eva, a patient at Sanyati Baptist Hospital in Zimbabwe, is in the last stages of AIDS. Confused, incontinent, refusing food, no longer talking, she will leave a child to be cared for by her sister. In Africa, few families are untouched by the plague, but Christians are sharing the good news of God's love and working to turn the tide. (Photo by Denise McGill)

Southern Baptist missionary relates to orphans

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (BP) — Squeals of delight echo down the hall as the toddlers rush to their friend at full speed.

"Who loves you?" Glenna Francis asks as she bends down to hug the two boys. "Your Father in heaven loves you, that's who."

The boys smile and clap with delight. Small hands reach up to grab Francis' finger to lead her outside.

At first glance, this might seem like a normal reunion between grandmother and grandchildren — but it is far from that.

The two boys, as well as the 11 other babies in this home, are orphans.

They live in House of Hope, a temporary home in South Africa where Southern Baptists are sharing God's unconditional love with orphaned babies and toddlers.

Many babies have been orphaned by the AIDS epidemic sweeping Africa. Some have the disease themselves.

No one understands their need for a loving touch better than Francis. The International Mission Board missionary grew up as an orphan, too.

Her mother died when she was only 13 months old. Her father remarried, but a year later he and her step-mother drowned, leaving Francis and her younger brother orphaned.

The brother and sister

bounced around from home to home for years. Finally, in her high school years, Francis found a permanent home in Houston with an aunt and uncle.

"People cared for me when they didn't have to," Francis recounts. "My aunt and uncle did it because they wanted to touch my life."

"Now, I am doing the same. I am touching lives that otherwise wouldn't have a chance to know Jesus' love."

The short-term orphanage is a temporary home for babies and toddlers. As social services try to find permanent homes for the children, House of Hope offers them a safe haven.

In Africa, orphans are traditionally absorbed by the extended family and everyone lends a helping hand.

With AIDS leaving behind 12.1 million orphans in sub-Saharan Africa, the extended family is fast becoming overextended.

Temporary homes such as House of Hope are popping up all over South Africa in an effort to meet the increasing needs, Francis explains.

Just then a muffled cry from the baby room draws Francis' attention. The baby crying is almost five months old but you couldn't tell by looking at her.

She still can't control her own head and is about the size of a one-month-old. The problem: She has full-blown AIDS.

As Francis changes the diaper, she sighs and motions for a fellow worker to step up and see the new lesion on the baby's leg.

"My heart just breaks for these kids," she says. "We are close to having a missing generation here in South Africa because of AIDS."

"These children need to know that they are loved even though they may have HIV/AIDS. Some of them are going to die and they need to know Jesus' love before that happens."

"To understand the emotional problems, you almost have to have walked in their shoes. That's something I've done."

"God prepared me for this all of my life," she says as she plays with a six-month-old.

"These children just steal your heart. I pray that someone else will come to love these little feet as I have."

They may only be babies, but they need hope, too," she points out.



GIVING HOPE — Missionary Glenna Francis (foreground) and an unidentified worker comfort babies at House of Hope, a temporary home in Johannesburg, South Africa. Temporary homes like House of Hope are springing up all over Africa because families have a hard time taking care of the estimated 12.1 million orphans whose parents have died of the AIDS epidemic sweeping the continent. (Photo by Sue Sprenkle)

Bibliocipher

By Charles Marx
copyright 1999

T OJ OFYSO OAZ GJLRO,
NSL PLRTAATAR OAZ NSL
LAZTAR, HOTNS NSL
FGEZ, CSIQS TH, OAZ
CSTQS COH, OAZ CSTQS
TH NG QGJL, NSL
OFJTRSNB.

ELDLFONTGA GAL: LTRSN

Clue: R = G

Have fun with cryptography and exercise your Bible knowledge. A King James Version Bible verse has been encoded by letter substitution. The same letter is substituted throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial and error. Answer to last week's puzzle: First Timothy One: Four.